

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

September 12, 2006

The Honorable Mitt Romney  
State House  
Office of the Governor  
Room 360  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Romney:

We are writing to follow-up on a letter that the entire Massachusetts Congressional Delegation sent to you on December 14, 2005 expressing our belief that you should join the governors of seven other Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states in signing the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and to which no response has been forthcoming.

RGGI is an historic regional agreement to curb the greenhouse gas emissions from power plants that cause global warming. It uses a market-based approach to achieve a 10 percent reduction by 2020. New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont have all joined this regional pact, and Maryland is currently in the process of joining the program. Of the seven states that have already joined RGGI, Massachusetts is the second largest emitter of the leading greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide, from power plants.

We are concerned that as the governor of the Commonwealth, you have chosen not only to withdraw Massachusetts from this multi-state cooperative undertaking, but have chosen not to offer any explanation or response to our earlier letter. Massachusetts' failure to participate in this important agreement to reduce greenhouse gasses was made even more glaring last week when the California State Legislature, with the support of a Republican governor, passed a bill that would also significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in that state. California's legislation would reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state to 1990 levels by 2020 -- amounting to roughly an 11% reduction from current levels. California's plan applies not only to power plants but also to other sources of greenhouse gases, such as industrial facilities and mobile sources.

California's action is just the latest example of the rapidly growing sentiment around the country that we must take real, meaningful and immediate steps to reduce the emissions that are leading to global warming. We encourage you to take such action by reconsidering your earlier decision and authorizing the participation of Massachusetts in this important initiative. In any event, we would appreciate a response regarding this matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



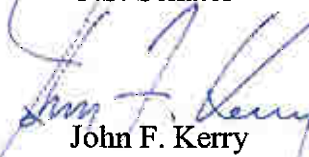
Edward J. Markey  
Member of Congress



Barney Frank  
Member of Congress



Edward M. Kennedy  
U.S. Senator



John F. Kerry  
U.S. Senator



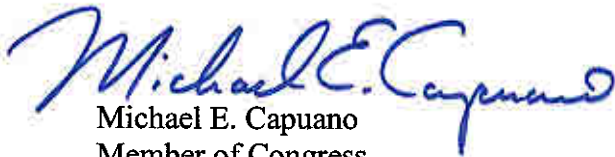
Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



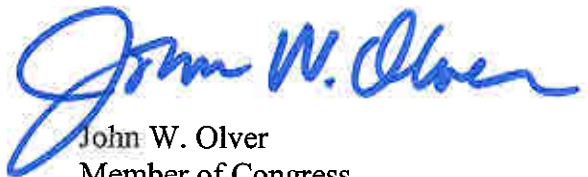
Martin T. Meehan  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



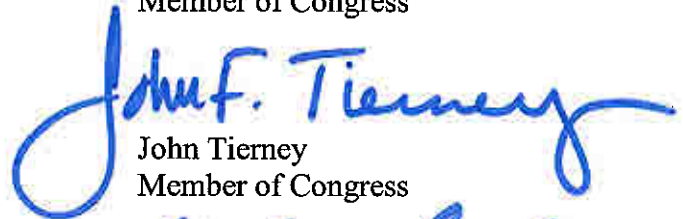
Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress



John W. Olver  
Member of Congress



William D. Delahunt  
Member of Congress



John Tierney  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

Attachment: 12/14/05 Massachusetts Congressional Delegation letter to  
Governor Romney